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Approved For Release 2003/12/02 : CIA-RDP58-00597A000100070003-3

10 October 1956 *Feb 1956*

MEMORANDUM FOR THE ACTING DIRECTOR:

This memorandum recommends action in paragraph 4.

1. Attention is invited to the attached copy of an article from "The Task Force," which is in fact a press release by "The Defenders of the American Constitution, Inc."

The "Defenders etc." was organized around 1954 by Lieut. Gen. Pedro del Valle, USMC (Retired); and two Washington, D. C., lawyers, the late Colonel John H. Coffman, and Eugene C. Pomeroy. Pomeroy's law office on New Hampshire Avenue, N. W., is the "headquarters" of the "Defenders." Its executive council includes Major General Claire Chennault, USAF (Retired), and Brig. Gen. Bonner Fellers, USA (Retired), and Dr. Lee de Forest, distinguished radio pioneer. Del Valle has been active, with the help of the "Defenders" in trying to organize a third political party for the Presidential elections of this year. He is quoted as describing his organization as "pro-American, right wing, or nationalist." He is said to back the following: Senators McCarthy, Jenner, Bridges, Bricker, Byrd, Eastland, Knowland, Maloney, and Thurmond; Governor J. Bracken Lee of Utah; Governor Herman Talmadge of Georgia; Herbert Hoover, Clarence Manion, and General Douglas MacArthur.

2. Congresswoman Church, of Illinois, had her assistant, Mrs. Isley, phone re a letter from a constituent who had read "Task Force" and complied with the request to write his Congressman to have the CIA investigated. She wanted to know if we would put out a statement in answer to the charges. I told her of our policy not to deny or confirm what is said about us, but that Norman Paul, the CIA Legislative Counsel, would be pleased to assist her in any way we could if she had any further questions. I gave her some background on del Valle and on the British author, Peter J. Huxley-Blythe, and told her that the extreme statements by a Britisher against the CIA were so ridiculous as to be considered not worthy of any reply other than ridicule. She appeared to agree. She said that she will phone Pomeroy to see if he has anything to say. She said that she had asked the Un-American Activities Committee re the "Defenders" and they had nothing. The Library of Congress is trying to get her some data on the history, aims, etc., of the "Defenders."

3. I discussed this with Mr. Kirkpatrick, who is familiar with the anti-CIA efforts of del Valle and Huxley-Blythe. Norman Paul turned over to me a copy of the "Task Force" which came to him because [] of ORR got it from someone in the office of Congressman Miller, who knew Hoyt was with CIA. Security also has a copy []. Representative Church's office said that the letter she received indicated that letters also had been sent to Senators Douglas and Dirksen.

The Press has not picked up this story.

*Mr. McKellips of Cong. Fellers' office (Md.) called
Mr. Paul and talked to him about the above
on 18 Oct. 1956.*

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b. Recommend CIA not take it too seriously and we laugh it off as a "ridiculous" statement in unofficial comment, but officially we "have no comment."

STANLEY J. ORDEAN
Assistant to the Director

Attachment

Distribution:

Orig & 1 - Add

1 - SO

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The recommendation of para. b is

APPROVED _____

DISAPPROVED _____

E. F. CHAMBERS
Lt. Gen., USAF
Acting Director

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UNCLASSIFIED CONFIDENTIAL SECRET

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
OFFICIAL ROUTING SLIP

TO	NAME AND ADDRESS	INITIALS	DATE
1	Mr. Norman Paul Rm 330 Admire		
2			
3			
4	Col Hogan JFB	10/9/56	
5	Mr. Paul		
6			
ACTION	DIRECT REPLY	PREPARE REPLY	
APPROVAL	DISPATCH	RECOMMENDATION	
COMMENT	FILE	RETURN	
CONCURRENCE	INFORMATION	SIGNATURE	

Remarks:

Per our conversation
Congressman Miller's office
will probably be contacting
to find out he can answer
a constituent who presented
a document to you [redacted] D.R. has
this to you [redacted] make up your mind if you
want to see it [redacted]

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FOLD HERE TO RETURN TO SENDER [redacted]

NAME AND PHONE NO.

DATE

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